https://comment-fic.livejournal.com/194174.html?thread=41725822#t41725822

Lucifer remembers the original fight, the moment when he could have won Heaven, the moment when Michael's sword slipped and Lucifer had an opening.

He remembers this, sitting on a wooden chair and looking at a cold window, wrapped in human flesh and wanting it over.

He remembers how Michael's eyes met his, and how he couldn't harden his heart into the stone it needed to be in time. He couldn't take the shot, so to speak, and Michael reacted with fury at this weakness, and so Lucifer was cast from Heaven.

(He thinks that Michael wanted him to slay him, so that Michael wouldn't go on in pain.)

Lucifer has spent thousands of years in his cage, trying to find an anger in him strong enough to enable him to murder his brother.

What he found helped him kill Gabriel.

What he found...he can only hope that this time he will be able to kill Michael.

(He knows he will need to avoid Michael's eyes throughout the fight.)

For if he failed again, Michael would never forgive him.

_____

Sequel:

He wants to laugh in stupefied wonder at the audacity of the Winchesters to think that his vessel can control him. They're so ignorant, so arrogant, and he's been preparing for this for years.

Sam is smothered in memories and ideas and by the weight of Lucifer's power.

Lucifer flies for the battleground, weapon in his hand, and he muffles Sam's voice, so that his vessel cannot make this harder than it is.

("Sam, Sam...the brother you care about will not die here. You are the luckier of us, here." He savors Sam's flare of confusion and smothers him completely when he lands.)

Michael is there moments later. Lucifer can see the anger radiating off of him, he

can see the desperation in the lines of Adam's body.

He does not meet Michael's eyes, and raises his sword.

They fight, swords ringing out, and when Dean Winchester tries to ride in and make humanity's stand, and when the fight is stalled to give him his say.

(Lucifer respects Dean's arrogance, childish as it is, for he remembers his own arrogance, long long ago.)

Then there is Castiel. Raising a hand against his brother and Lucifer sees in Castiel his own compatriots. (Astarte, Mammon, Belial and more and more who would do such an act for him, if he had required it.)

He destroys Castiel with a brush of power and then Dean's other compatriot as well.

Dean's defiance to Heaven is so close to his own that he *aches* when he looks at him.

He sees his own failed fight, and that is what drives him to make Dean Winchester's death slow, slow and painful.

He must win this time. He must destroy Michael, retake Heaven and remake Earth. He cannot let this mockery of his own fight stop him.

He raises his hand to end it, to return to his true task, and he stops. He sees God. Working through a medium. He feels God rip away everything he has struggled for, and give Sam the strength he needs to do what Sam could not do without assistance.

He feels Castiel being brought back, and Michael has returned, and then-

Then he can do no more than scream in impotent rage as Sam Winchester does the will of his Father and throws Lucifer from Earth once again.